

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 49

Introduced by Assembly Members Feuer and Huffman

December 1, 2008

An act to add Part 2.55 (commencing with Section 10608) to Division 6 of the Water Code, relating to water conservation.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 49, as introduced, Feuer. Water conservation: urban water use.

Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources to convene an independent technical panel to provide information to the department and the Legislature on new demand management measures, technologies, and approaches. "Demand management measures" means those water conservation measures, programs, and incentives that prevent the waste of water and promote the reasonable and efficient use and reuse of available supplies.

This bill would require the state to achieve a 20% reduction in urban per capita water use in California by December 31, 2020.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Part 2.55 (commencing with Section 10608) is
2 added to Division 6 of the Water Code, to read:

1 PART 2.55. WATER CONSERVATION

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3 CHAPTER 1. GENERAL DECLARATIONS AND POLICY4
5 10608. The Legislature finds and declares all of the following:6 (a) Water is a public resource that the California Constitution
7 protects against waste and unreasonable use.8 (b) Growing population, climate change, and the need to protect
9 California's fish and wildlife make it essential that the state manage
10 its water resources as efficiently as possible.11 (c) Reduced water use through conservation provides significant
12 energy and environmental benefits, can help protect water quality,
13 improves streamflows, and reduces greenhouse gas emissions.14 (d) The success of state and local water conservation programs
15 to increase efficiency of water use is best determined on the basis
16 of measurable outcomes related to water use or efficiency.17 (e) Improvements in technology and management practices
18 offer the potential for increasing water conservation in California
19 over time, providing an essential water management tool to meet
20 the need for water for urban, agricultural, and environmental uses.21 (f) The Governor has called for a 20 percent per capita reduction
22 in urban water use statewide by 2020.23
24 CHAPTER 2. URBAN WATER USE25
26 10608.4. The state shall achieve a 20-percent reduction in urban
27 per capita water use in California on or before December 31, 2020.